

PETERSBURG SCHOOL BOARD

**Work Session
Tuesday, January 17, 2023
7:30 PM, MS/HS Library
109 Charles W St
Petersburg, AK 99833**

A G E N D A

1. Discussion: READS Act and Attendance Policies

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The Board reserves the right to enter into executive session on any agenda item as provided for in State Law. Executive sessions will be entered into by motion and approved by a majority of the Board for discussion of the following subjects as permitted by law: (1) matters in the immediate knowledge of which would clearly have an adverse effect upon the finances of the District; (2) subjects that tend to prejudice the reputation and character of any person, provided that the person may request a public discussion; (3) matters which by law, municipal charter, or ordinance are required to be confidential.



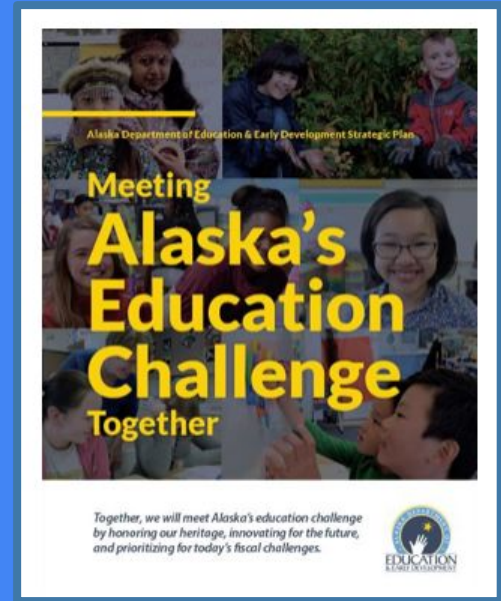
Alaska Reads

[#akreads](#)

Strategic Priorities: Alaska's Education Challenge

Five Shared Priorities:

1. Support all students to read at grade level by the end of third grade.
2. Increase career, technical, and culturally relevant education to meet student and workforce needs.
3. Close the achievement gap by ensuring equitable educational rigor and resources.
4. Prepare, attract, and retain effective education professionals.
5. Improve the safety and well-being of students through school partnerships with families, communities, and tribes.



Alaska Reads Act Timeline and Resources

TIMELINE

- Regulations
 - August 2022 – December 2022
- Preparation
 - September 2022 – March 2023
- State Board of Education regulation package
 - January 25, 2023
- Public Comment
 - February 2023 – March 2023
- Anticipated Adoption
 - April 2023

RESOURCES

<https://education.alaska.gov/akreads>:

- Webinar schedule and registration
- Recordings of webinars
- Slide decks
- Draft documents shared during webinars
- One-page supports
- FAQ

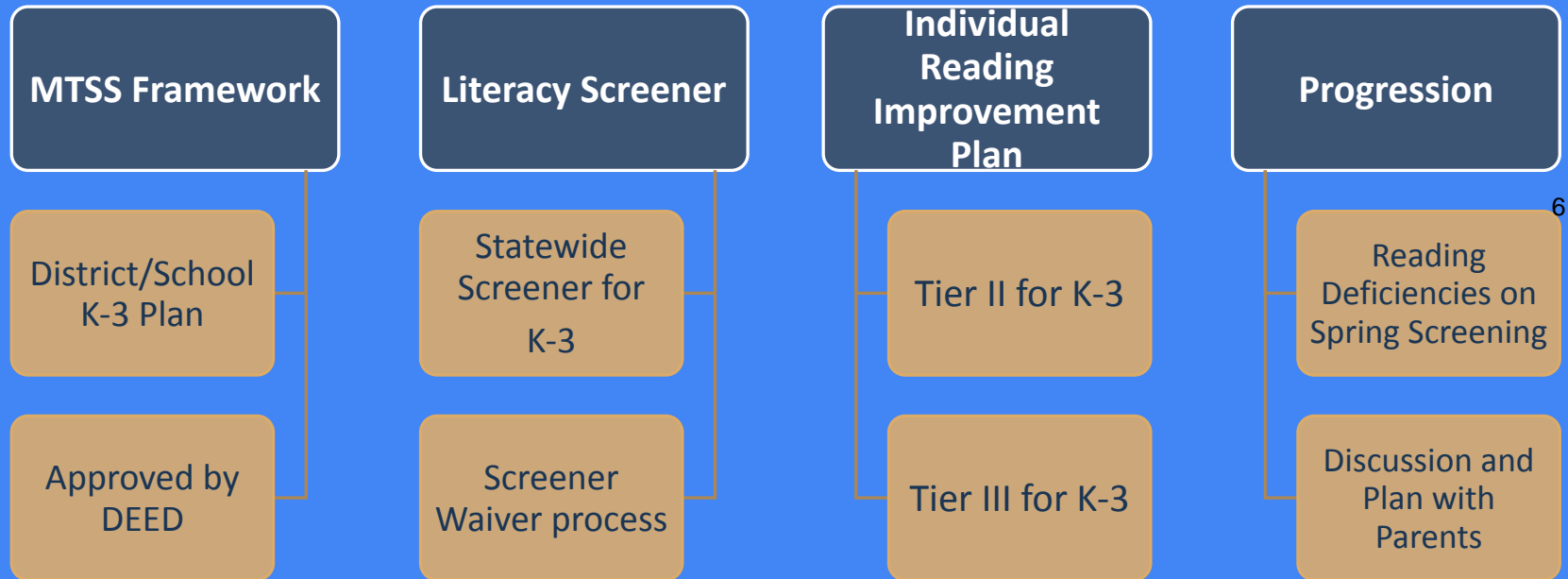


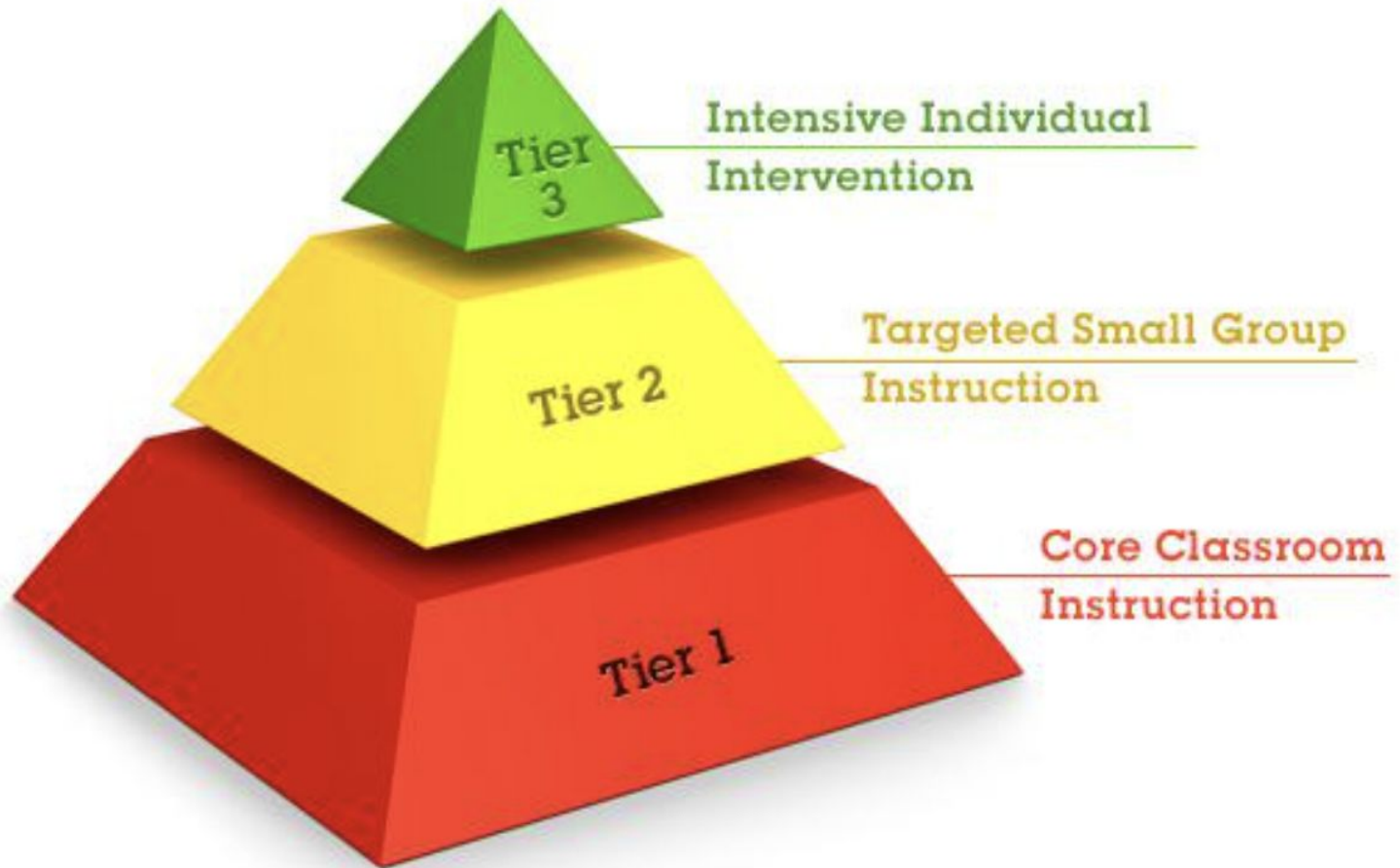
Reads Act: District Reading Intervention

- › **Required** of all districts receiving state funds
- › Components:
 - Department-approved RTI/MTSS plan
 - Literacy screener to identify students with reading deficiencies
 - Individual Reading Plan for students with reading deficiencies
- › Intervention must be based on the science of reading
- › Grade progression consideration following spring screening for students with reading deficits



District Reading Intervention Overview





PHONICS

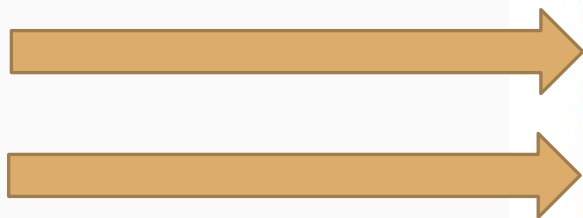
FLUENCY

PHONOLOGICAL AWARENESS

COMPREHENSION

VOCABULARY

DIBELS 8th Edition - Performance Indicators



Reading deficiency is defined as a score/ranking on the literacy screener that indicates a lack of proficiency on foundational skills.

| | | |
|----------------------|--|--|
| Well Below Benchmark | AT RISK >20% chance of not achieving at/above 20th percentile | Intensive Support <i>At risk for reading difficulties including dyslexia</i> |
| Below Benchmark | SOME RISK >20% chance of not achieving at/above 40th percentile | Strategic Support |
| Benchmark | MINIMAL RISK <20% chance of not achieving at/above 40th percentile | Core Support |
| Above Benchmark | NEGLECTIBLE RISK <10% chance of not achieving at/above 40th percentile | Core Support |

Literacy Screener Components

| Measure | Grade K | Grade 1 | Grade 2 | Grade 3 | Grade 4-5 |
|-------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|-----------|
| Letter Naming Fluency | ✓ | ✓ | | | |
| Phonemic Segmentation Fluency | ✓ | ✓ | | | |
| Nonsense Word Fluency | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | |
| Word Reading Fluency | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | |
| Oral Reading Fluency | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Maze (Basic Comprehension) ** | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| mCLASS Vocabulary ** | | | ✓ | ✓ | |

** Maze and vocabulary are administered online to the whole class at once

Reading Intervention Services

- Intervention services are offered to all K-3 students who have reading deficiencies.
- Parents with children who have a reading deficiency will be communicated with immediately (within 15 days) and will continue to be communicated with until they reach proficiency.
- Deficient is defined as below the 40th percentile on the Dibels (Amplify) Literacy Screener.
- Proficiency is defined as above the 40th percentile.
- Those students below proficient will receive intensive reading interventions.

Individual Reading Improvement Plan

- Provided for each student in K-3 who has a reading deficiency based on the statewide screening tool.
- Must be implemented no later than 30 days after the identification of the deficiency, and must be created in consultation with the students' parents/guardians, principal, and other district identified staff. ¹²
- Parents/guardians must be provided with at least 10 progress updates throughout the year.

Demonstrate Reading Deficiency

- Any time during the school year if a student in K-3 demonstrates a reading deficiency, parents/guardians must be notified no later than 15 days after identification.
- A reading improvement plan will be developed describing the interventions and services available within 30 days of identification.
- A student in grade 3 should demonstrate sufficient reading skills to progress to grade four unless the student receives a waiver.

Progression

- If it is determined, based on the literacy screening administered in the spring, that a student in grade K-2 has a reading deficiency, school staff will set up a meeting with parents/guardians no later than 45 days before the end of the¹⁴ school year to discuss advancement to the next grade level. The parent/guardian will make the final decision about progression in grades K-2.
- A student in 3rd grade should demonstrate sufficient reading skills to progress to grade 4 by scoring at grade level on the literacy screening tool, the statewide summative assessment, or on an alternate assessment approved by the Dept. of Education, or by demonstrating mastery of reading standards through a portfolio based on criteria established by the Dept. of Education.

Retention

- If it is determined, based on the spring screening, that a student in 3rd grade has a reading deficiency, and the student does not demonstrate the sufficient reading skills to progress to 4th grade, a meeting must be scheduled with the parent/guardian no less than 45 days before the end of the school year to discuss retention. 15
- If parents decide they want their child to progress to grade 4, they must sign a waiver developed by the Dept. of Education acknowledging that the student is not prepared for 4th grade and that the student will participate in an additional 20 hours of individual reading intervention services during the summer before the student enters grade 4.

Waiver

- A superintendent or superintendent designee may exempt a student from delayed progression when progression is in student's best interest.
 - Considerations:
 - Reading interventions have been given for 2 or more years.
 - Students' primary language is a language other than English.
 - Student has a disability and has an Individualized Education Plan (IEP).

Misc.

- In the absence of a parent or guardian, the superintendent or designee decides on progression of students in grade K-3.
- Written notification to parent or guardian of the decision will be given by superintendent or designee. 17
- Parents will be able ask for a meeting to be rescheduled.

How Can We Help One Another?

- We need to take the best practices from the READS Act and implement them to the best of our ability in Petersburg.
- Collaborate with your child's teacher to provide support and reinforcement¹⁸ at home.
- Ensure consistent school attendance to allow for the most robust reading instruction possible.
- Other ideas?

ACADEMIC INFORMATION & PERMANENT RECORDS:

An active record of student progress is kept at school. These records are available for parents to review and are not shared with others unless a release is signed by the parent. School records contain:

- *Personal data such as names of parents or legal guardians, date of birth, immunization records, birth certificate, home address and phone number.
- *Previous grades and/or copies of report cards.
- *Student's yearly attendance records.
- *Reading, writing, and math portfolios.

ADMISSIONS:

Kindergarten students must be five years of age by September 1. There is a registration period for kindergarten students every spring and before school officially begins in the fall. Further information about the registration process may be obtained by calling the elementary school office.

To be eligible for the first grade, a student must be six years of age by September 1.

New students who are entering our school for the first time need to be enrolled by their parents or guardians, who will sign a confidential record release form and other specific permission forms (i.e. field trips, etc.). A copy of the student's BIRTH CERTIFICATE and IMMUNIZATION RECORDS will be needed as certain immunizations are required by Alaska State Law before a student may attend school. Parents are encouraged to enroll their children in school as soon as they arrive in Petersburg. Please call the school office if you have any questions.

ATTENDANCE AND ABSENCE REPORTING PROCEDURES:

Regular and consistent attendance is necessary for a student's success in school. Makeup work does not replace all of the instruction and classroom activities that are essential to keeping up with the rest of the class.

1) The bell rings at 8:00 a.m. and students may enter the building at this time.

- School officially begins at 8:00 a.m. with a grace period of 10 minutes. Students arriving after this time will need to check in at the office and bring a signed tardy slip to their teacher. We ask that students arrive no sooner than 7:50.
- Please make every effort to have your children here by 8:00 am. When your child is tardy, they miss the most important part of the day and feel anxious or awkward coming in late and not knowing what to do because instructions have already been given. If your child will be tardy and needs a school lunch, let us know so s/he can be included in our lunch count.

Tardies and absences affect a child socially and academically. Other children notice that a child is not present to rely on as a friend and a collaborator on group projects. If a student's tardiness or attendance becomes disruptive to their education, a meeting will be scheduled with parents to make a plan so that attendance will not continue to negatively impact the child's education.

2) All absences are documented daily by staff and verified by the parent through a phone call or note. If we have not been notified by the time attendance is recorded in the office (9:00 am), we will call to verify the absence. This procedure ensures student safety and is a requirement of the Alaska Statute 14.30.010. (Compulsory Attendance Statute) . You are welcome to use our online [Student Absence Form](#) rather than calling in.

3) Our calendar has built-in vacation time, if families decide to take vacation outside this allotted time we are not required to provide missing work. If a student is absent due to medical or sickness our teaching staff will provide missing work. If a device is needed for the time period that the student is out, please contact Heather Conn at hconn@pcsd.us or 1-877-526-7656 ext.401 to checkout devices.

If attendance has an impact on academics or social emotional well being and school connectedness parents will be contacted. Please contact the school if your student will be absent. If a student is absent for 5 consecutive days due to medical/illness, we ask that you communicate with school officials, as we may request a doctor's note to excuse the absence.

Absences due to vacations are discouraged. We hope you can make your vacation plans during any of the regular school vacation times. We recognize that there may be extenuating circumstances where extended school absence will be necessary (i.e. medical conditions/emergencies, funerals, specific family situations, etc.), and we are more than willing to work with individual families on these situations. Arrangements should be made in advance with the individual teacher regarding missed class assignments.

In accordance with the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), the state of Alaska holds schools responsible for Chronic absences as a measurement of school quality and student success. Chronic absence, defined as missing 10 percent of school days within one academic year (17.2) for any reason, is a powerful early warning predictor of student performance. Attendance is marked by full or half days.

For more information regarding the Alaska State Compulsory Attendance Law (**Alaska Statute 14.30.010**) you may visit the Alaska Legal Resource Center online or contact the school for a copy of the statute.

BUS TRANSPORTATION/RULES:

The bus drivers have the responsibility for the safety and conduct of all students riding the bus to and from school. Students are expected to obey the driver at ALL times. If students do not heed warnings from the bus driver, they may receive a bus misconduct citation.

First Citation:

- Conference with student and driver.
- Parents contacted.

Second Citation:

- Conference with student and driver.
- Parents contacted.
- Student may be denied bus privileges for 2-5 days.

Third Citation:

- Conference with student, driver, and parents.
- Student may be denied bus privileges for the remainder of the school year.

5131.6(c)

Attendance Policy

It's very difficult to learn when you're not in class. Students who have been absent are responsible for making up missed work without disrupting the flow of classroom activities. *8 Alaska Statute 14.30.010. (When Attendance Compulsory)*

Tardiness and poor attendance affect children socially and academically. Students may feel awkward walking in late to a class, and other children will notice when a peer is absent in class to help with a project or collaborate in studying, for example. If a student's tardiness or attendance becomes disruptive to their education, a meeting will be scheduled to make a plan so that attendance will not continue to negatively impact your child's education.

Absences due to vacations are discouraged. We hope you can make your vacation plans during any of the regular school vacation times.

A. Absence

Being absent from a class for more than 10 minutes may be considered an aggravated tardy. Students who will be absent for a prolonged time must complete a trip slip and submit to the office. There are two types of absence, excused and unexcused. Valid reasons for an excused absence are listed below. Unexcused absences are those for which there is not a legal, excusable reason for the absence.

B. HOME NOTIFICATION

Attendance records are kept each period. Every effort is made to notify parents by phone when a student is absent and the school does not have prior notification. Parents are notified by letter when the student is in danger of failing due to absences.

C. TARDIES

Tardiness is disruptive to the classroom environment and infringes on others' learning rights. Students are expected to be at their assigned learning stations on time. A "tardy" means the student was less than ten (10) minutes late for class. Students arriving to class more than 10 minutes late will be assigned an aggravated tardy which will have more discipline associated and may result in loss of credit on class assignments. After one (1) tardy per quarter, students will be assigned a detention for each additional tardy. Habitual tardiness may result in additional consequences.

LEGAL REASONS FOR AN EXCUSED ABSENCE

1. Sickness, flu/communicable diseases, or other medical diagnoses. Students with ongoing and/or major illness and who are under the verified care of a doctor may be granted extra days for absence.
2. Communicable Diseases
 - a. Examples: strep throat, chicken pox, lice, pink eye, scabies, ringworm, impetigo, etc.

- b. Students will be sent home if suspected of having a communicable disease and will be advised to remain out of school until properly treated or no longer contagious. Please check with your family physician to determine when your child may return to school. (Doctors note is REQUIRED)
 - c. Please notify the school any time your child is kept home for suspected contagious conditions. This will help us observe other students for signs and symptoms.
- 3. Fever or Diarrhea
 - a. If a child has a fever or diarrhea they need to stay home. If a child develops a fever or diarrhea while at school we will call his/her parent or guardian. **Students must be fever and diarrhea free for 24 hours before returning to school.**
- 4. Vomiting (due to illness)
 - a. Children may return to school 24 hours after the last vomiting incident.
- 5. School-sponsored activities; e.g., local and regional athletic events, AASG, etc.
- 6. Death in the immediate family, parents, grandparents, or siblings.
- 7. Students participating in Viking Swim Club or other sanctioned club sports. Absences must be prearranged with the proper forms through the attendance office.
- 8. Family trips or local, non-profit community organizations.
 - a. A trip slip must be on file in the high school office a minimum of three days before departure.

ABSENCES REPORTING

A note or a phone call by parent/guardian explaining daily absences is needed. Please call the main office by 8:15am at 877-526-7656, or you may call outside office hours and leave a message.

1. All absences are documented daily by staff and verified by the parent through a phone call or note. If we have not been notified by the time attendance is recorded in the office, we will call to verify the absence. This procedure ensures student safety. If a student is absent for **5 consecutive** days due to medical/illness, after communicating with school officials, we may request a doctor's note to excuse the absence. A "Release from School" form may be requested from the Petersburg Medical Center by a patient or patient representative at no charge. *Please consult Petersburg Medical Center (or attending medical facility) and your insurance provider to predetermine medical costs. Petersburg School District is not responsible for medical charges associated with your child.*

2. If a student is going to be out of school for family trips or other personal reasons, a "Parent Request for Student Absence" needs to be filed in the office before leaving (with the exception of family emergencies.) The students generally know this as a "trip slip" (which must be signed and turned into the office before all travel.) Class work will be done according to the arrangements made ahead of time with individual teachers. Students need to take this form to their teachers a minimum of three school days prior

to their absence. In order to receive credit for work missed, the student must have a signed trip slip and complete assigned work on time.

3. Step 1: After five (5) cumulative days of unexcused absences per quarter in the MS and semester in the HS, a letter will be sent home describing the attendance concern along with a copy of the Alaska State Compulsory Attendance Law.

4. Step 2: After ten (10) unexcused absences per quarter in the MS and semester in the HS, another letter will be sent home describing the attendance concern along with a copy of the Alaska State Compulsory Attendance Law.

5. Step 3: Students who have unexcused absences beyond 12 days per quarter in the MS and semester in the HS, parents will be notified by the school office to make an appointment with the principal and school counselor to assess any concerns, including medical that may be keeping the child from attending school on a regular basis so other supports or concerns can be addressed. This includes a doctor's verification and or other professional evaluations.

MAKEUP WORK

Students are responsible for any missed work when they are absent. The student needs to confer with the teacher and get the assignments missed. Makeup work due dates are to be arranged between the teacher and student, before the absence if possible. If work is not turned in during the agreed-upon time frame, a "0" will be placed in the grade book for those assignments. Unexcused absences may result in reduced or no credit for assignments that were assigned or due on the date of the student unexcused absence(s). Teachers will ensure that students will have access to the information to allow the opportunity for learning to continue.

If you feel there are extenuating circumstances, a parent/guardian has the option of the appeal procedure, starting with the teacher.

Out of School Suspension. Daily work is to be handed in the day OSS students return to school. All of their assignments are posted on the teacher's web site. Work not handed in on time turns into a "0".

CHECKING OUT

Parents are advised to call the school on the morning of a student's absence, if possible. Please call the main office by 8:15am at 877-526-7656, or you may call outside office hours and leave a message. Notification will enable the teacher to plan makeup work, to know approximately how long the student will be absent, and to arrange to send assignments home.

Students who leave school grounds for any reason, including students leaving on a school-sponsored trip, are to check out through the office. Returning students must check in to the office before re-entering class. Failure to check out through the office will result in disciplinary action.

The middle school maintains a "closed campus". Students are only permitted to leave the campus during the school day when signed out by a parent. This includes lunchtime.

Superintendent of schools. The Superintendent is charged with the responsibility of administering the educational program within the framework of the Petersburg School Board's policies.

High school principal. The high school principal is responsible for the high school buildings and the program of studies carried on therein.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT CLASSES (A.P.)

AP admissions criteria: Students who wish to enroll in Advanced Placement classes must go through an application procedure. The AP teacher will distribute the application materials in the spring for the next school year's class. *The class size is limited to a maximum of 25.*

Applicants for AP English will be asked to submit writing for scoring, and those students receiving the highest scores will be considered for the class. The applications will have a due date, and submissions received after that date may not be considered. Once students have been admitted their junior year, they are not required to re-apply for admission in their senior years. Students who take an AP course do so with the understanding that they are expected to take the AP test in May.

For purposes of GPA, Advanced Placement (AP) courses will be calculated on a 5.0 scale if students complete the course in good standing.

ALCOHOL, ILLEGAL DRUGS AND TOBACCO (PCSD BP 5131.6)

The use, possession, sale, purchase, or transfer (any transaction) of products containing tobacco, alcoholic beverages and drugs are prohibited in all school buildings, on school grounds, and at all school activities, including parties, dances, athletic events, and school-sponsored trips of any kind. The school district unequivocally supports drug-free schools and disciplinary measures to assure that the schools stay drug free.

See Tobacco, Alcohol, Drugs under Extracurricular Activities for violation consequences.

ATTENDANCE

It's very difficult to learn when you're not in class. Students who have been absent are responsible for making up missed work without disrupting the flow of classroom activities. *Alaska Statute 14.30.010. (When Attendance Compulsory)*

Tardiness and poor attendance affect children socially and academically. Students may feel awkward walking in late to a class, and other children will notice when a peer is absent in class to help with a project or collaborate in learning, for example. If a student's tardiness or attendance becomes disruptive to their education, a meeting will be scheduled to make a plan so that attendance will not continue to negatively impact your child's education.

Absences due to vacations are discouraged. We hope you can make your vacation plans during any of the regular school vacation times.

A. ABSENCES

Block classes count as two (2) absences; and daily classes count as one (1) absence. Being absent from a class for more than 10 minutes may be considered as an absence. Students who will be absent for a prolonged time must complete a trip slip and submit to the office. There are two types of absence, excused and unexcused. Valid reasons for an excused absence are listed below. Unexcused absences are those for which there is not a legal, excusable reason for the absence.

B. HOME NOTIFICATION

Attendance records are kept each period. Every effort is made to notify parents by phone when a student is absent and the school does not have prior notification. Parents are notified by letter when the student is in danger of failing due to absences.

C. TARDIES

Tardiness is disruptive to the classroom environment and infringes on others' learning rights. Students are expected to be at their assigned learning stations on time. A "tardy" means the student was less than ten (10) minutes late for class. Students arriving to class more than 10 minutes late will be assigned an aggravated tardy which will have more discipline associated and may result in loss of credit on class assignments. After three (3) tardies per semester, students will be assigned 30 minutes of detention for each additional tardy. Habitual tardiness may result in additional consequences.

LEGAL REASONS FOR AN EXCUSED ABSENCE (BP 5113)

1. Sickness, flu/communicable diseases, or other medical diagnoses. Students with ongoing and/or major illness and who are under the verified care of a doctor may be granted extra days for absence. Home study may be provided for extended medical leave.
2. School-sponsored activities; e.g., local and regional athletic events, AASG, etc.
3. Death in the immediate family, parents, grandparents, or siblings.
4. Students participating in Viking Swim Club or other sanctioned club sports. Absences must be prearranged with the proper forms through the attendance office.
5. Family trips or employment (such as commercial fishing) -- special arrangements must be made with the principal. A trip slip must be on file in the high school office a minimum of three days before departure.

ABSENCES REPORTING

A note or a phone call by parent/guardian explaining daily absences is needed. Please call the main office by 8:15am at 877-526-7656, or you may call outside office hours and leave a message.

1. All absences are documented daily by staff and verified by the parent through a phone call or note. If we have not been notified by the time attendance is recorded in the office, we will call to verify the absence. This procedure ensures student safety.

If a student is absent for **5 consecutive** days due to medical/illness, after communicating with school officials, we may request a doctor's note to excuse the absence. A "Release from School" form may be requested from the Petersburg Medical Clinic by a patient or patient representative at no charge.

Please consult Petersburg Medical Center (or attending medical facility) and your insurance provider to predetermine medical costs. Petersburg School District is not responsible for medical charges associated with your child.

2. If a student is going to be out of school for family trips or other personal reasons, a "Parent Request for Student Absence" needs to be filed in the office before leaving (with the exception of family emergencies.) The students generally know this as a "trip slip" (which must be signed and turned into the office before all travel.) Class work will be done according to the arrangements made ahead of time with individual teachers. Students need to take this form to their teachers a minimum of three school days prior to their absence. In order to receive credit for work missed, the student must have a signed trip slip and complete assigned work on time.
3. Step 1: After five (5) cumulative days of absences per semester in the HS, a letter will be sent home describing the attendance concern along with a copy of the Alaska State Compulsory Attendance Law.
4. Step 2: After ten (10) absences per semester in the HS, a second letter will be sent home describing the attendance concern along with a copy of the Alaska State Compulsory Attendance Law.
5. Step 3: Students who have absences beyond 12 days per semester in the HS, parents will be notified by the school office to make an appointment with the principal and school counselor to assess any concerns, including medical that may be keeping the child from attending school on a regular basis so other supports or concerns can be addressed. This includes a doctor's verification and or other professional evaluations.

MAKEUP WORK

Students are responsible for any missed work when they are absent. The student needs to confer with the teacher, either via email or on the first day returning to school, to create a plan for learning and to get the assignments missed. Makeup work due dates are to be arranged between the teacher and student, before the absence if possible. If work is not turned in during the agreed-upon time frame, a "0" will be placed in the grade book for those assignments. Unexcused absences may result in reduced or no credit for assignments that were assigned or due on the date of the student unexcused absence(s). Teachers will ensure that students will have access to the information to allow the opportunity for learning to continue.

If you feel there are extenuating circumstances, a parent/guardian has the option of the appeal procedure, starting with the teacher.

CHECKING OUT

Parents are advised to call the school on the morning of a student's absence, if possible. Please call the main office by 8:15am at 877-526-7656 x200, or you may call outside office hours and leave a message. Notification will enable the teacher to plan makeup work, to know approximately how long the student will be absent, and to arrange to send assignments home.

Students who leave school grounds for any reason (excluding open-campus lunch), including students leaving on a school-sponsored trip, are to check out through the office. Returning students must check in to the office before re-entering class. Failure to check out through the office will result in disciplinary action.

Out of School Suspension. Daily work is to be handed in the day OSS students return to school, unless prior arrangements have been made with the teacher(s). All of their assignments are posted on the teacher's web site. Work not handed in on time turns into a "0".

BULLYING

Bullying is unwanted, aggressive behavior among school-aged children that involves a real or perceived power imbalance. The behavior is repeated. (Source: *stopbullying.gov*)

A form of repeated aggression and occurs when a person(s) with a perceived power imbalance willfully subjects another person (victim) to an intentional, unwanted, and hurtful verbal and/or physical action(s) which result(s) in the victim feeling oppressed (stress, injury, intimidation, discomfort) at any school site or school-sponsored activity or event. Bullying may also occur as various forms of hazing, including initiation rites perpetrated against a new student or a new member of a team. Students who engage in such conduct shall be subject to a range of punishment to include parent conference, verbal or written reprimand, in-school or out-of-school suspension, and/or placement in an alternative learning environment.

Students are prohibited from engaging in any form of harassment, intimidation, or bullying while on school property, on school buses, at the bus stop, or at school-sponsored activities or functions. Students or staff members who have witnessed or have reliable information that a student has been subjected to harassment, intimidation or bullying should report the incident immediately to school staff members, who shall promptly initiate an investigation. Allegations of bullying shall be promptly investigated, giving due regard to the need for confidentiality and the safety of the victim and/or any individual(s) who report an incident(s) of bullying to a teacher, counselor, or principal. An individual has the legal right to report an incident(s) of bullying without fear of reprisal or retaliation at any time.

False Reporting Harassment: Students and staff who knowingly or willfully make a false report of harassment, intimidation or bullying, or provide false information in connection with an investigation, will be subject to disciplinary action up to and including suspension/expulsion for students.

Retaliation Prohibited: Retaliation or reprisal against any person who reports an incident of harassment, intimidation or bullying, or cooperates in an investigation, is strictly prohibited. Any such retaliation or reprisals will result in disciplinary procedures, which may include suspension or expulsion of offending students. *All information regarding Reporting of Harassment to Retaliation Prohibited referenced in AR 5131.43(b)*

Cyberbullying/Harassment via Technology: The district's computer network, including access to the Internet via that network, whether accessed on campus or off campus, during or after school hours, may not be used for the purpose of harassment, intimidation, or bullying. Users are responsible for the appropriateness of the material they transmit over the system. All forms of harassment, intimidation or bullying over the network, commonly referred to as cyberbullying, are prohibited. Cyberbullying also includes, but is not limited to, other misuses of technology to harass, intimidate, or bully, including sending or posting inappropriate email messages, instant messages, text messages, digital pictures or images, or Web site postings, including blogs.

Students and staff who believe they have been the victims of such misuses of technology, as described in this policy, should not erase the offending material from the system. A copy of the material should be printed and a report made under this policy. In situations in which the cyberbullying originated from a non-school computer, but is brought to the attention of school officials, disciplinary measures may be imposed provided the cyberbullying and/or Internet threats: 1. Contain threats of violence against staff members or students; 2. Threaten vandalism to school property; 3. Suggest or advocate physical harm to staff members or students; or 4. Create a significant disruption to the school's educational mission, purpose and objectives.

Article 1. Compulsory Education.

Chapter 30. Pupils and Educational Programs for Pupils.

Sec. 14.30.010. When attendance compulsory.

(a) Every child between seven and 16 years of age shall attend school at the public school in the district in which the child resides during each school term. Every parent, guardian or other person having the responsibility for or control of a child between seven and 16 years of age shall maintain the child in attendance at a public school in the district in which the child resides during the entire school term, except as provided in (b) of this section.

(b) This section does not apply if a child

(1) is provided an academic education comparable to that offered by the public schools in the area, either by

(A) attendance at a private school in which the teachers are certificated according to AS 14.20.020;

(B) tutoring by personnel certificated according to AS 14.20.020; or

(C) attendance at an educational program operated in compliance with AS 14.45.100 – 14.45.200 by a religious or other private school;

(2) attends a school operated by the federal government;

(3) has a physical or mental condition that a competent medical authority determines will make attendance impractical;

(4) is in the custody of a court or law enforcement authorities;

(5) is temporarily ill or injured;

(6) has been suspended or expelled under AS 14.03.160 or suspended or denied admittance under AS 14.30.045;

(7) resides more than two miles from either a public school or a route on which transportation is provided by the school authorities, except that this paragraph does not apply if the child resides within two miles of a federal or private school that the child is eligible and able to attend;

(8) is excused by action of the school board of the district at a regular meeting or by the district superintendent subject to approval by the school board of the district at the next regular meeting;

(9) has completed the 12th grade;

(10) is enrolled in

(A) a state boarding school established under AS 14.16; or

(B) a full-time program of correspondence study approved by the department; in those school districts providing an approved correspondence study program, a student may be enrolled either in the district correspondence program²⁷ or in the centralized correspondence study program;

(11) is equally well-served by an educational experience approved

by the school board as serving the child's educational interests despite an absence from school, and the request for excuse is made in writing by the child's parents or guardian and approved by the principal or administrator of the school that the child attends;

(12) is being educated in the child's home by a parent or legal guardian.

(c) If a parent, legal guardian, or other person having the responsibility for or control of the child elects to enroll a child who is six years of age in first grade at a public school, after enrollment, the child is subject to the provisions of (a) and (b) of this section. If the parent or guardian of a child who is six years of age and is enrolled in first grade at a public school determines, within 60 days after the child is enrolled, that the best interests of the child are not being served by enrollment in the first grade, the child may be withdrawn from school, and the provisions of (a) and (b) of this section do not apply to the child until the child is seven years of age.

Sec. 14.30.020. Violations.

A person who knowingly fails to comply with AS 14.30.010 is guilty of a violation. Each five days of unlawful absence under AS 14.30.010 is a separate violation.

Sec. 14.30.030. Prevention and reduction of truancy.

The governing body of a school district, including a regional educational attendance area, shall establish procedures to prevent and reduce truancy.

Sec. 14.30.040. Extension of provisions to United States public schools for aborigines. [Repealed, § 59 ch 98 SLA 1966.]

Sec. 14.30.045. Grounds for suspension or denial of admission.

A school age child may be suspended from or denied admission to the public school that the child is otherwise entitled to attend only for the following causes:

(1) continued wilful disobedience or open and persistent defiance of reasonable school authority;

(2) behavior that is inimicable to the welfare, safety, or morals of other pupils or a person employed or volunteering at the school;

(3) a physical or mental condition that in the opinion of a competent medical authority will render the child unable to reasonably benefit from the programs available;

(4) a physical or mental condition that in the opinion of a competent medical authority will cause the attendance of the child to

BP 6010 GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Note: The following policy may be revised to reflect a local school board's goals and objectives for student achievement. However, Alaska regulation [4 AAC 06.825](#) requires school districts to set target dates for a graduation rate of 90% or better, and an attendance rate of 95% or better. Effective 2014, if a school or subgroup does not meet the four-year or five-year graduation rate, it may qualify for an alternative graduation rate. If 10 or fewer students, after approved adjustments, enrolled in the ninth grade four or five years earlier, then the target graduation rates are satisfied if all but one of those students graduate. The subgroups are identified at [4 AAC 06.830](#) as follows: 1) students with limited English proficiency; 2) students with disabilities; 3) economically disadvantaged students; 4) African-Americans; 5) Alaska Native and American Indians; 6) students of two or more races; 7) Asians or Pacific Islanders; 8) Hispanics; and 9) whites.

Student Achievement

The School Board recognizes that the key work of school boards is to establish and promote a clear vision of student achievement as the top priority of the district. Student achievement will be defined by the district and include but not be limited to, assessment results, student attendance and drop-out rates, graduation rates, and percentages of students earning certificates of completion and diplomas.

The School Board recognizes that student achievement cannot occur if students do not regularly attend school. For this reason, the School Board sets a target date of ____ [insert year] to achieve an attendance rate of 95% or better for the district's schools and its students.

Graduation represents the culmination of a student's achievement in the district. The School Board believes that all student have the potential to graduate. The Board sets a target date of ____ [insert year] to achieve a graduation rate of 90% or better for the district's schools and its students.

The superintendent will ensure development and implementation of a comprehensive, collaborative planning process that engages the school community in the district's continuous student achievement improvement program efforts to achieve the district's vision and mission.

The district's program will be consistent with the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development requirements for content standards and high school graduation.

The School Board will, in striving for continuous improvement of student achievement, annually review district and individual school data on student achievement, prioritize, allocate and realign resources as necessary.

The superintendent will develop administrative regulations as needed to implement this policy.

(cf. 0100 – Philosophy)

(cf. 0210 – Goals for Student Learning)

(cf. 0500 – Review and Evaluation)

(cf. 5000 – Concepts and Roles)

(cf. 6000 – Concepts and Roles)

(cf. 9000 – Role of School Board and Members)

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Legal Reference:

ALASKA STATUTES

[14.03.075](#) College and career readiness assessment; retroactive issuance of diploma

ALASKA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE

[4 AAC 04.140](#) Content standards

[4 AAC 06.825](#) Graduation and attendance rates

Revised 3/2016

ADOPTED: June 21, 2005

Petersburg City School District

BP 5113 ABSENCES AND EXCUSES

The School Board believes that regular attendance plays a key role in the success a student achieves in school. The Board recognizes its responsibility under the law to ensure that students attend school regularly. Parents/guardians of children aged 7 to 16 are obligated to send their children to public school except as allowed by law. The Board shall abide by all state attendance laws and may use any legal means to correct the problems of excessive absence or truancy.

(cf. 5112.1 - Exemptions from Attendance)

(cf. 5112.2 - Exclusions from Attendance)

Absences/Truancy

The Superintendent or designee may excuse student absences for health reasons, family emergencies or other reasons the Superintendent or designee determines constitute good cause.

The Board is committed to keeping students in school. Truancy is defined as the absence of a student from class without the knowledge or prior consent of the parent/guardian. The Superintendent or designee shall implement all steps appropriate to reduce student absences and to ensure that all children residing within the district are receiving appropriate educational services as required by law.

(cf. 5147 - Dropout Prevention)

(cf. 6164.5 - Student Study Teams)

(cf. 6176 - Weekend/Saturday Classes)

(cf. 5121 - Grades/Evaluation of Student Achievement)

The Superintendent or designee shall report to the Board any apparent violations of compulsory attendance laws. The Board shall investigate such reports and any public complaints of violations of state compulsory attendance laws.

Legal References:

ALASKA STATUTES

[14.03.070](#) School age

[14.17.080](#) Student count estimates

[14.17.160](#) Student counting periods

[14.30.010](#) When attendance compulsory

[14.30.020](#) Violations

[14.30.030](#) Prevention and reduction of truancy

ALASKA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE

[4 AAC 09.005-4 AAC 09.105](#) State aid

Revised 9/97

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AR 5113 ABSENCES AND EXCUSES

If requested, students who have been absent from school must provide an explanation for the absence.

Excused Absences

When students contemplate absence for personal reasons, their parents/guardians should meet with the principal to ask that the expected absence be excused. The principal or designee may deny the request if he/she believes that the absence would be educationally harmful to the student or set a poor example in matters of school attendance for the student or other students. If the request is denied, reasons will be given.

Truancy

Unless a child subject to compulsory attendance laws is exempted, excluded or expelled from school attendance, each five days of unlawful absence constitutes a separate violation of state law. ([A.S. 14.30.020](#))

When student absence is determined to be excessive, parents/guardians shall be notified and informed of state compulsory laws.

The Superintendent or designee shall establish procedures for notifying parents/guardians and students when a student's absenteeism violates the district's attendance policies.

Students experiencing difficulty with attendance shall be counseled in an attempt to alleviate the problem. The district, the parents/guardians, and the student shall work together to develop an appropriate plan for improving school attendance.

Continued truancy will ultimately result in suspension. A student suspended under this provision is entitled to due process protections and appeal procedures as set forth in Board policy and administrative regulation.

Revised 9/97

ADOPTED: June 21, 2005

Petersburg City School District

BP 5112.1 EXEMPTIONS FROM ATTENDANCE

The School Board is responsible for enforcing state compulsory attendance laws. The Board may excuse a child from compulsory public school attendance as allowed by law. Parents/guardians of children granted exemption shall not incur penalties for violations of the compulsory attendance laws.

(cf. 5112.2 - Exclusions from Attendance)

(cf. 5113 - Absences and Excuses)

(cf. 5144 - Discipline)

(cf. 5144.1 - Suspension/Expulsion)

Legal References:

ALASKA STATUTES

[14.30.010](#) When attendance compulsory

[14.30.020](#) Violations

[14.30.030](#) Prevention and reduction of truancy

[14.30.340](#) When not required to enroll

[14.45.030-14.45.200](#) Private and denominational schools

Revised 1/03

ADOPTED: June 21, 2005

Petersburg City School District

AR 5112.1 EXEMPTIONS FROM ATTENDANCE

Requests for exemption from compulsory full-time attendance must include satisfactory evidence of conditions upon which an exemption can be legally justified.

A child may be exempt from compulsory public school attendance if he/she:

1. is provided a comparable academic education by attending private school in which teachers are certified, or by being tutored by certified personnel, or by attending a religious or private school operated in compliance with [AS 14.45.100 - 14.45.200](#);
2. attends a school operated by the federal government;
3. has a physical or mental condition which a competent medical authority determines will make attendance impractical;
4. is in the custody of a court or law enforcement authorities;
5. is temporarily ill or injured;
6. has been suspended or expelled under [AS 14.03.160](#) or suspended or denied admittance under [AS 14.30.045](#);
7. resides more than two miles from a public school or public school transportation route and no federal or private schools are available to him/her within two miles of his/her home;
8. is excused by Board action or by action of the Superintendent subject to Board approval;
9. has completed 12th grade;
10. is enrolled in the state boarding school or in a full-time state-approved correspondence study program;
11. is equally well-served in educational experience approved by the Board contingent upon the written request of the parent/guardian and approval of the school principal;
12. is being educated in the child's home by a parent or legal guardian.

Revised 9/97

ADOPTED: June 21, 2005

Petersburg City School District
